

Local Hospital Campaign Staff Praised During Hospital Week

Mother Mary Genevieve of the Little Company of Mary took occasion of Hospital Week to send a message of gratitude and congratulations to the Little Company of Mary building fund campaign, in particular, and to Torrance and the surrounding communities in general.

Mother Mary Genevieve said that through the zealous efforts of the committee and the generous response of the community, the proper hospital facilities for the Torrance area will become a reality in the year 1959. The Reverend Mother stated that the new 146-bed general hospital will be completely equipped with the latest technological developments and the finest operating, laboratory and additional facilities.

Designed by a local architect, the hospital will meet the needs of the community. Rein-

forced concrete, four stories high, will enclose 100,000 square feet. The structure will have completely air-conditioned operating, obstetrical and emergency facilities upon completion in 1959.

The Little Company of Mary Hospital will present the community with one of the largest and one of the most modern hospitals in this area. All this is being made possible, said Mother Genevieve, through the cooperation of many thousands of people who are giving their financial support, many hours of time and many prayers.

On hearing this message, Mrs. John Tweedy urged all ladies on the general solicitation committee to put forth an all-out effort during the next couple of weeks in order that the goal of the campaign may be attained by May 31st.

"I know that Mother Genevieve has confidence in us, and I know that we will live up to this confidence," Mrs. Tweedy said.

Any ladies who wish additional cards may have them by contacting their major or by calling campaign headquarters, 1738 Andreo Ave.

Save Those Old Stories, Writer Says

"Never throw away your old rejected manuscripts," advised Maxine Shore, guest speaker at the April meeting of the Southwest Manuscripters. The writer went on to say that many times she has gone back to an old story, and with a bit of rewriting and sold it the next time.

Mrs. Shore gave a talk on the joys and pitfalls of writing, giving many instances in her own experience, both joyous and otherwise. She pointed out that a writer, by the very nature of his work, must be sensitive. Yet he must develop a hard exterior in order to take the rebuffs and rejections that are part of writing.

Resistance Needed

She stressed the fact that talent is not enough. One must follow through with persistence, she said. Her record of seven books and hundreds of short stories and articles proves that she practices what she preaches.

In the juvenile field, according to Mrs. Shore, the market is wide open for short stories, articles, one-act plays, and books. Of these, the book field is the most promising, since royalties on some can continue for many years. In writing historical books, the group was advised to be fully informed on the background, but only inject enough in the book to give it authenticity, without boring the reader.

Reviews Award

One of Mrs. Shore's books, "The Captive Princess" was selected by two book clubs and received a special award. Her latest book, "Shipwreck Island" is scheduled for early publication.

Sales during the month for the Manuscripters included a short item to Mademoiselle by Polly Booth and two articles to Secretary's Stylisheet by Doroth White.

DRUG DISCOVERY

The drug penicillin was discovered in London in 1928.

El Nido Park Work Done; More Slated

Supervisor Kenneth Hahn announced this week that \$28,000 in improvements at El Nido park have now been completed and officially accepted by the county.

The improvements include the construction of comfort stations, a service yard, "skinning" of a ball diamond, and grading to specifications of a large area of the park for future improvement.

The county last week announced that it would receive bids for a service building, landscaping, and sprinklers at the park by May 29. Estimated cost of the improvements will be about \$23,300.

Although Torrance annexed the El Nido area last year, the county had made plans for improvements of the park before then. Land for the park, 182nd and Kingsdale Ave., was purchased by the county in 1950. No improvements were made until 1956 when a new community building and a number of items of playground equipment was installed.

The park presumably is expected to revert to the city of Torrance at the start of the new fiscal year July 1.

Public Told To Watch for Phony Survey

The Los Angeles county sheriff's office is investigating several unauthorized telephone calls to householders from persons representing themselves as civil defense workers.

Refusing to give a name or telephone number, the caller claims to be making a civil defense survey and asks numerous personal questions of householders. All residents are urged to refuse to answer any telephone questions regarding civil defense and to report the call to the sheriff's station, OR 1-7531, according to Howard Earl, director, Los Angeles county disaster-civil defense.

All-Female Stage Hands Back Up All-Male Actors

Although "Stalag 17," current Accent theater production, has an all-male cast of 18, it also has an all cast of 12 behind the scenes.

The ladies form the stage crew which gets the setting, props, and special effects ready for the men in the production, which will be presented for the next two week ends at the ACCENT playhouse, El Prado and Cabrillo.

SUN SPOTS

Sun spots frequently have diameters many times greater than the earth's.

The county's civil defense home census program is under way in several areas, the director explained, but this is only done by personal call at the home by a certified deputy warden who has official identification.

Stage Manager Barbara "Bobby" Cooper has the enviable backstage job of bossing around 18 men.

Props Checked

A usual production evening finds Bobby two hours before curtain time setting up the stage and checking props (water in pots, cleaning out cups, checking all the bunks) with Judy Sagenkahn who is in charge of properties.

With this job completed, costumes take her attention—scurrying around to find the lost socks, drawers, tee shirts and other intimate items of male apparel which have been misplaced since the previous performance. Multiply by 18 the average housewife's problems with her husband's sloppy dressing habits and you have a rough idea of what Bobby goes through at this point.

Next comes makeup and the difficulties of satisfying the male vanity. Pat Gray and Doty Blais are on hand to help make every man feel that he is Clark Gable's successor.

Crisis Overcome

As curtain time approaches, a series of crisis are met and overcome with jangled nerves and pre-curtain jitters mounting. Finally—curtain time; frantic signals passing between the light and sound booth at the rear of the auditorium and the backstage area.

Patricia Cattle on sound and Molly Stolle on lights from a highly efficient team for coping with the complex lighting and sound effects demanded by the play.

According to Bobby, the blackout system being used for scene changes presents a problem in precision timing that

would tax the capacity of an electronic computer.

The climax of the play, technically speaking, is in the final scene when barking dogs, fires, whistles, offstage voices and machine gun bullets are synchronized with the activity on stage to create the dramatic conclusion.

"Stalag 17" will run for two more week ends on Thursday, Friday and Saturday evenings. Reservations may be obtained by calling FAairfax 8-2232.

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